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20 December 2017

Our ref: CD/17/713962

Mr Paul Buckley  
Chief Executive Officer  
Bass Coast Shire Council  
PO Box 118  
Wonthaggi VIC 3995

Dear Mr Buckley

### **STONY POINT TO FRENCH ISLAND AND COWES FERRY BUSINESS CASE**

I refer our recent meeting with Mayor Cr Pamela Rothfield and yourself to discuss the proposal for a car and passenger ferry between Stony Point, French Island and Cowes in Westernport Bay being developed in partnership with Mornington Peninsula Shire Council and Regional Development Victoria.

Access to Phillip Island via the existing bridge crossing remains a significant vulnerability that can be restricted or entirely blocked due to vehicle accidents, peak traffic periods and other disruptive events. From an emergency management perspective, the ferry proposal notionally provides a significant alternative means of accessing Phillip and French Islands for the both community and the emergency services.

EMV provides in principle support to Bass Coast Shire Council in the development of a business case for a passenger and vehicle ferry service. In particular, our interest is in exploring what benefits these alternative access arrangements create for the community, including the opportunity for improved emergency access and egress.

I look forward to the findings of this process.

Please advise if we can be of further assistance during the consultation phase in relation to emergency management issues.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Craig Lapsley", is written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Craig Lapsley PSM  
**Emergency Management Commissioner**





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8 March 2018

Our ref: CD/18/170744

**RE: STONY POINT TO FRENCH ISLAND AND COWES FERRY BUSINESS CASE**

Thank you for your email enquiry on 1 March 2018 seeking background information in relation to correspondence with the CEO of Bass Coast Shire Council in December 2017.

At this early stage, EMV is providing in principle support for the development of a business case for a passenger and vehicle ferry service serving Phillip and French Islands. The intent is to allow for the benefits or otherwise of the proposal to be explored, with particular reference to the emergency management implications.

The proposal notionally provides an alternative means of access for the emergency services and community that requires further exploration, especially if this leads to improved community safety and emergency management outcomes.

Like you, I look forward to further information in relation to the proposal.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Craig Lapsley", is written over a faint blue circular stamp.

Craig Lapsley PSM  
Emergency Management Commissioner

